

Correctional Employees Climb Up the Ladder

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Commissioner J. David Donahue



Experienced & Emerging Leadership Team with Commissioner J. David Donahue (Far Left)

Indianapolis, Indiana - (February 23, 2007) - Commissioner J. David Donahue kicked off the 2007 Experienced & Emerging Leadership (EEL) Program in Clifty Falls Park in Madison, Indiana. Over 40 professionals in corrections and parole were nominated to attend the program designed to teach the fundamentals of successful leadership in the Indiana Department of Correction.

The EEL program is the first of its kind in Indiana corrections spearheaded by the Commissioner, and taught by a internationally known speaker and author, George Manning, Professor of Psychology and Business, Northern Kentucky University. Commissioner of Kentucky DOC, John Rees, opened the

session.

"This innovative program provides middle management correctional employees with the tools of successful leadership," said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "Cultivating leadership within the Department is key to providing advancement opportunities for the future of our employees."

This leadership program which focuses on succession management is another example of the reform brought upon by Governor Daniels. By investing in employees today, the Department is positioning itself to place talented people in positions of leadership.

The Art of Leadership session focused on basic management techniques and leadership development. Dr. Manning moderated from "The Art of Leadership," which he co-authored. Between sessions, each team was challenged by the Commissioner to research, brainstorm and find solutions to departmental issues based on national and correctional promising practices.

"It takes creative and knowledgeable people to produce results and deliver solutions in government," added Donahue. "This year's slogan, Measure Up! & Follow Up! is focused on making sure that we measure everything we do and accomplish the 2007-08 Agency's strategic plan."

Dr. Manning commented on the training saying, "Dave is an impressive and strong leader whose vision for the future leadership of the Indiana Department of Correction is inspirational."

Participant comments were enthusiastic: Eric Comeno, Northern Regional Trainer from Westville Correctional Facility stated, "This is the best training I have been a part of in my 10 years as a DOC instructor and this program makes me feel part of the whole team. This is the first time in 16 years with the Department of Correction I have felt this way. I want to thank Commissioner Donahue and Director Dan Ronay for this opportunity."

Casework Manager of Indiana State Prison, Frank Masley added, "I would like to sincerely thank the Department for allowing me to attend this program! It is awesome that the Administration is investing in the employees."

Students will meet quarterly in 2007 and participate in teams to strategically address key initiatives in the Department. Upcoming sessions include Building Community in The Workplace; Fostering a High Performance Work Environment and Correction Success through the Team and Concept.

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About The Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.